

## SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

### SARL NEWS SUNDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2002

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National society for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 Central Africa Time (CAT) in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English.

This bulletin is also available on the website of the SARL at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za) and on packet bulletin boards.

SARL news invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to amateurs to [sarlnews@hotmail.com](mailto:sarlnews@hotmail.com) not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It would be appreciated if you could do it in both English and Afrikaans.

In the news today:

#### SILENT KEY

#### SARL VHF/UHF CONTEST

#### MEMBERSHIP LUCKY DRAW WINNERS ANNOUNCED

#### CLUB NEWS

Stay tuned for more details on these and other news items.

You are tuned to ZS6SRL. Visit the SARL Website or call the SARL office which is open on weekdays from 09:00 to 13:00 at 011 675 2393 for details on how to join, book sales and all related amateur radio activities.

#### SILENT KEY

It is with regret that we must announce that Abrie van der Merwe ZS6CJA's key fell silent on 31 August after a heart attack. His wife Maryna ZR6MVM and their daughter Eloma ZR6ELO survive him. Our sincere sympathy to them, other relatives and friends.

#### PAUSE

I continue with the rest of the news in detail:

#### SARL VHF/UHF CONTEST

In less than a week the second leg of the SARL VHF/UHF contest will take place. The contest starts at 12:00 CAT on Saturday 21 September and ends at 12:00 CAT on Sunday 22 September. CW, FM or SSB activity will take place on the 6-metre, 2-metre, 70 cm and 23 cm amateur bands. The rules of the contest as well as the general rules for SARL contests are available on the SARL website at [www.sarl.org.za](http://www.sarl.org.za). A Windows programme, SARLVU, which will assist you in the logging and scoring of this contact can also be downloaded

from the SARL website. The programme has been written by Nico ZS4NS. The address for your entry is John Fielding, PO Box 256, Inchanga, 3670.

#### MEMBERSHIP LUCKY DRAW

It is with great pleasure that Council wishes to announce the winners of the New Members Lucky Draw which took place at its meeting on Saturday 14 September 2002. The prizes were kindly sponsored by Rory Norton, ZS2BL.

The winners are:

Home alarm system - Leendert Geleynse - ZR5LG; Telephone intekom system - Gert Bester - ZS6ZB; Universal remote control system for TV's - John Ensor - ZS6APE.

Congratulations to the winners of the prizes and all the other new members who have joined the ranks of the SARL. It was the right thing to do.

There were 181 new members made up of: Div 1 50; Div 2 20; Div 3 00; Div 4 15; Div 5 21; Div 6 72; Other 03.

Council wishes to express their sincere thanks and appreciation to Rory Norton ZS2BL of Commco Security Products who so willingly and in the spirit of Ham radio donated the prizes for the Lucky Draw.

#### NTIA HEAVES POTENTIAL MONKEY WRENCH INTO 5-MHZ BAND PROPOSAL

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) in the USA has recommended that the Federal Communications Commission not grant an ARRL petition for a domestic-only, secondary Amateur Radio allocation at 5 MHz. The NTIA regulates radio spectrum allocated to the federal government. The last-minute recommendation followed hundreds of largely favorable comments and reply comments from organizations - including the ARRL - and from individuals.

In a 21 August letter, the NTIA's Fredrick R Wentland said federal agencies are making extensive use of HF for emergency services, including communications support for the Department of Defense, the Coast Guard and Department of Justice law enforcement activities. "NTIA believes the Commission's current proposal does not adequately provide for protection from harmful interference to these critical government operations primary in the band," said Wentland, who is NTIA's acting associate administrator for spectrum management.

In its recent comments, the ARRL called the 5 MHz allocation "an urgent priority of the Amateur Service" and asked that the proceeding to grant it be expedited. Wentland's letter arrived at the FCC beyond the cut-off date for reply comments in the proceeding, ET Docket 02-98.

Wentland said that without a more complete understanding of the interference potential to federal operations, the NTIA believes the secondary amateur allocation would be "premature." But he said that NTIA would work with the

federal agencies, the FCC and the amateur community to determine whether “some future accommodation” for amateurs at 5 MHz would be possible. That could include limitations on power or emission types, a reduction in the size of the proposed band, the use of discrete frequencies or geographical restrictions, he suggested.

#### BOOKSHOP SPECIAL OFFER

The SARL bookshop is running a special offer on three books. These books are offered below cost to members to clear stock and the offer will be valid until the books are all sold. Because of the changing nature of the market for books, the SARL bookshop will no longer stock these books.

The first book is “Understanding Basic Electronics”. As the name implies, it is a course in basic electronics and as such is applicable to the field of amateur radio. It has close to 400 pages, is well illustrated and will make a good addition to the bookshelf in any shack.

The second offer is on W1FB’s Design Notebook. This is by Doug De Maw and is a must have for hams who experiment with electronics.

The last book on sale is by the same author. It is “W1FB’s QRP Notebook”. This book contains simple, easy to construct QRP circuits.

Each of these books is on offer for fifty rand. At a time when even a small paperback costs more than a hundred rand, this is excellent value for money.

Phone Debbie at 011 675 2393 to check on the stock position. Hams who cannot visit the NARC to buy the books must add postage to their payment.

#### SAATI AGM

The AGM of SAATI will be held on Monday 30 September at the premises of the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club on the south campus of Pretoria University starting at 20:00. All amateurs interested in digital communications are invited to attend.

#### CLUB NEWS

##### BLOEMFONTEIN RADIO AMATEUR CLUB

The Bloemfontein Radio Amateur Club held their Annual General Meeting on Saturday 07 September 2002 and the following members were elected to serve on the committee:

Chairman Martin Schwella ZS4MS; Vice Chairman and Repeaters Hennie Greyling ZS4HG; Treasurer Victor Reitz ZS4VR; Secretary/Newsletter Dennis Green ZS4BS; Technical George Hattingh ZS6GM; Club House manager Bernie Fourie ZS4AQZ.

The club’s Amateur of the Year award was presented to George Hattingh ZS4GM for the example he sets in living out the code of a radio amateur.

#### POTCHEFSTROOM AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

At the AGM of the Potchefstroom Amateur Radio Club held on 31 August 2002, the following members were elected to the committee for 2002/2003:

Chairman Joe Mayer ZS6ANW; Vice Chairman and Treasurer Chris Viljoen ZS6BYQ; Secretary Bill van der Walt ZS6WDV; Additional members: Dawie Jacobs ZR6AY, Petro Jacobs ZS6LJ, Petrus du Plooy, ZR6DPH, and Pieter Roux ZS4KJ.

#### NOORDWES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

At the AGM of the Noordwes Amateur Radio Club the following committee was elected:

Chairman: Piet Geldenhuys ZS6PTB; Secretary: Johan Moolman ZS6AWL; Treasurer: Willie Jones ZR6WHJ; Social: Carel Wentzel ZS6CFW

The Council of the SARL wishes to thank the outgoing committees for their loyalty and dedication to the task and congratulations to the incoming committees, may you have a prosperous year.

This brings us to the end of the news for today.

This bulletin was compiled by Dennis ZS4BS and read by.....from .....as a service to radio amateurs, short wave listeners and electronic enthusiasts.

The SARL invites you to listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International on 21560, 9750 and 7082 kHz and 145,625MHz in East London, 145,650 in Durban and 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area. Due to ARMI's duration of one hour it brings us a larger variety of news items, and in more detail, which is of interest to radio amateurs world wide. A repeat broadcast can be heard on Mondays at 20:00 CAT on 3215 kHz. ARMI is sponsored by Telkom and Sentech.

Also join the SARL President's net which is on the air at noon on Sundays on 7082 kHz.

You have been listening to ZS6SRL, thank you for joining us. Also a big word of thanks to those persons supply news for these bulletins and the amateurs who relay the bulletins so regularly.

Goodbye everyone.

/EX